

to skins being pegged out so as to look like the outer coverings of large, striped greyhounds.

'Area dimensions' are of scientific interest and value.

In making the above criticisms I will not, I hope, be accused of not crediting *Records of Big Game* with its immense value, both to Science and Sport.

It is only by such criticisms that one can arrive at true facts, and avoid a multiplication of species and races being admitted by default of criticism, which are based on insufficient and inconclusive material.

We owe (I write both as a naturalist and a sportsman) an incalculable debt of gratitude, both to the originators and the present editors of the book.

FORT SANDEMAN,
BALUCHISTAN,
March 8, 1930.

C. H. STOCKLEY,
Lt.-Col.

XVII.—NOTES ON THE MAMMALS OF BALUCHISTAN

A year's residence in the Zhob Valley, and a good deal of travelling in the surrounding country, has convinced me that Baluchistan remains the most interesting part of India, zoologically speaking.

The first thing that strikes one is the wide distribution of the larger mammals in spite of their comparative scarcity; and the number of species to be found, contrary to generally accepted ideas.

The Leopard, Wolf (*Canis lupus*), and Striped Hyaena are scattered all over the Baluchistan Agency, and, as these species are great travellers, this is not so remarkable.

But what is very notable is the number of localities where the Himalayan Black Bear occurs. I know of them personally on the Takht-i-Suliman massif, at the head of the Kuchmina Valley, and have reliable information of their occurrence in several of the ranges west of the Zhob River, at over 6,000 feet. Everywhere they are scarce, are shot at whenever seen, and it is wonderful how they continue to exist.

Oorial (locally called '*gud*') are scattered all over the district, are still fairly plentiful in spite of much shooting, and good rams are still to be met with fairly close to main roads. A very fine ram was shot recently near Sheghalu Post, west of the Zhob River, by an Indian Officer of the Zhob Militia. The horns measured $39\frac{1}{4}$ " right, and $38\frac{3}{4}$ " inches left, and are, I believe, the longest pair now in existence. Major Dodd's head of $41\frac{1}{2}$ ", shot by a Jemadar of the Wana Militia, was destroyed in Wana in 1919, and I believe that Major Taylor's $39\frac{1}{2}$ " inch head, picked off a ziarat in Waziristan, is also no longer in existence.

Straight-Horned Markhor are still to be found in many localities, but have been terribly shot down, and good heads are very hard to find. I have made an expedition to each of two formerly famous localities,—the Takht-i-Suliman and the Kuchmina Valley,—without seeing a single shootable head. The type of horn is very distinct from the different ranges as a rule.

Both the Chinkara (*Gazella bennetti*) and Kennion's Gazelle (*Gazella fuscifrons*) are found in Baluchistan. The former, (possibly a distinct race) seems to be found east of the Zhob Valley, and Kennion's Gazelle, in the Valley itself, but the distribution is not yet accurately known.

FORT SANDEMAN,
March 8, 1930.

C. H. STOCKLEY,
Lt.-Col.

XVIII.—MIGRATION OF WILD FOWL

Since the publication of Vol. xxxiv, No. 1, of the *Journal*, the following recoveries of Ringed Birds have been reported to us.

Place of Ringing	No.	Date	Species	Ringed by	Date of recovery	Locality	Remarks
Manchar Lake, Sind.	3110	March 8, 1929	Wigeon M. pene-lope.	Haji Rab Rakhro Lakho.	Jan. 7, 1930	Anchar L. Between Gardebal and Srinagar.	Adult. ♂
Do.	3384	Jan. 23, 1929	Do.	R. B. Maclachlan.	Sept. 20, 1929	NishnyArenz-yare Tobolsk Dist., Siberia.	Adult ♀ Recovery after 246 days, 2,300 miles due north of place of ringing.
Ghagga Bahawalpur.	2195	Dec. 12, 1928	Mallard Anas platyryncha.	G. Atkinson.	March 10, 1930	Mastug, Chitral State Lat. 70°.30' Long. 36°.15' reported by Lt. Stockley Roper.	Recovery after 369 days.
Manchar Lake, Sind.	3126	Mar. 16, 1929	Anas strepera.	Haji Rab Rakhio Lakho	March 11, 1930	New Boukhara (Russia) circa 40°N × 70°E.	
Hygam Lake, Kashmir	884	Mar. 18, 1929	Anas strepera.	Deputy Controller, State Rakhs	April 1930	Chalda (Kashmir State)	

Capt. G. Sherrif reported the recovery of 13 Mallard, *A. platyryncha* ringed by him at Kashgar, Chinese Turkestan. All these ducks were recovered at Kashgar or in its immediate neighbourhood within one to ten days from the date of ringing.